GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4759
ANSWERED ON:27.04.2005
ANTI CANCER DRUG FOR TREATMENT OF INFERTILITY
Singh Shri Vijayendra Pal

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether anti-cancer drug Letrozole is banned for treatment of infertility ;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the names of the clinics which are openly using the banned drugs for infertility and the action taken by the Government against such clinics?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE(SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) & (b) The drug letrozole, has been approved as an oral anti-cancer drug for marketing. However, the use of the drug for the treatment of infertility has been published in the Medical Journals and its use by the Gynecologists. Such use of a drug by Medical Practioners for an indication, not yet officially approved is considered as `Off-label use of drugs`. Since Letrozole has not been approved for treatment of infertility, there is no question of banning it for the same.

(c) Question does not arise.